

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 19th October 1901.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

2533. The death of Abdur Rahman Khan, says the *Indian Mirror*, brings the Indian Government face to face with serious diplomatic issues, and it would be idle to pretend that there is no solid ground for the apprehension that serious trouble might ensue regarding the succession.

The death of the Amir of Afghanistan.

INDIAN MIRROR,
9th Oct. 1901.

The *Mirror* fully sympathises with the Government of Lord Curzon for the heavy responsibility now thrown upon it, but regards it as fortunate that at the present moment there is a Viceroy at the head of affairs who has threshed out the whole problem, and who is sure to bring matters to a peaceful termination. It advises Lord Curzon strongly to give up the idea of his projected tour, and appeals again to the Princes and people of India (especially the educated among them) to render every support to Government at this critical juncture.

2534. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has an appreciative notice on the death of Abdur Rahman, and wonders whether his heir, Habibullah Khan, will be able to hold his own against the troubles with which he is most likely to be soon surrounded. It regards it as a fortunate circumstance that Lord Curzon is at the head of the Indian Government and has not the slightest doubt that His Excellency is quite equal to any emergency in Afghanistan that may result either from Habibullah's incapacity or the intrigues of Russia.

Ibid.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
10th Oct. 1901.

2535. The following appears in the *Indian Mirror* of the 11th instant:— It is not a little curious that no sooner has the grave closed in around the remains of Amir Abdur Rahman than Russia, as announced by the *Times*, should decide to commence at once the construction of a railway from Askabad to Meshed. Russia seems to be always wide-awake, and on the *qui vive* to follow up any advantage that happens to come in her way. Procrastination forms no part of the policy of Russia in Asia.

Russia and Afghanistan.

INDIAN MIRROR,
11th Oct. 1901.

2536. The *Bengalee* hopes that the cut-and-dried plan which, it is stated, the Government of India is prepared with, to deal with any contingency that may confront it in Afghanistan, with regard to the succession, will not add to the burden of the Indian tax-payer. It holds that the Afghan succession will pass off peacefully or be the prelude to a civil war, exactly as it suits Russia's interests.

The Kabul succession.

BENGALIEE,
11th Oct. 1901.

The situation may well cause the gravest anxiety to Lord Curzon's Government. With the Transvaal war still unfinished, with prospects of complications arising in the Persian Gulf, with the Chinese puzzle still unsolved, England's hands are just now too full; and the late Amir could not have selected for his exit from the stage of the world a more inconvenient time for Great Britain than he has done. For the present, the Government of India must lend every support to Habibullah; but that support would not, of course, remove the chances of complications arising, should Russia find it to be her interest to put her finger in the Afghan pie.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

2537. The *Moslem Chronicle* publishes the memorial of Shah Janoodul Huq, late a Sub-Inspector of Police, Shahabad, to His Excellency the Viceroy, against the orders of the Local Government removing him from his appointment, because he did not see that the District Superintendent of Police had water in his bath at the local inspection bungalow, or a sufficient supply of milk, at the time that officer inspected his outpost, and inveighs against the obnoxious practice of supplying free *rasad*, which custom the action of the Lieutenant-Governor in this case is likely to be construed into encouraging. It hopes that His Excellency the Viceroy will take a higher and broader view of the whole question.

The case of Shah Janoodul Huq, late a Sub-Inspector of Police, Shahabad.

MOSLEM CHRONICLE,
5th Oct. 1901.

BENGALUR,
11th Oct. 1901.

2538. The *Bengalee* reports that in addition to the case of bribery and oppression pending against Sub-Inspector Gopal Chandra Chakravarti, of Naraingarh, Midnapore, another case has been instituted against his assistant, Sub-Inspector Sureswar Banerji, and two duffadars, for bribery. The case, however, which was to have been tried by Mr. Marr, Joint-Magistrate, has been transferred to the file of Babu Monmohan Chakravarti, Deputy Magistrate, in whose Court Sureswar Babu is allowed to move about freely, sit among the pleaders and counsel and is conspicuous by his free and easy manner. It is stated that he has not even been suspended from his office, although the ends of justice loudly demand it.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
9th Oct. 1901.

2539. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* goes over the details of this case and tries to account for the Magistrate's disappointment in not being present when the stripes were administered. It suggests that it was because he suspected that the punishment had not been inflicted at all, or possibly he wanted to give definite instructions for its infliction on the spot. The article ends up as follows:—

Anyhow, in the present case, we assure the City Magistrate that he was very lucky that the sentence had been carried out in his absence. For, we are almost sure that the scene would have haunted him for several days. Possibly he has never seen a whipping scene before; for, if he had, he would have never shewn such zeal in trying to prosecute the Assistant Surgeon and a subordinate of his for doing him a real service.

INDIAN MIRROR,
9th Oct. 1901.

2540. The following is taken from the letter of the Tippera correspondent of the *Indian Mirror*:—

The prohibition to the public entering public offices.

The recent Government circular preventing the public including pleaders and mukhtears, from entering public offices, is not only causing inconvenience to the suitors, but to the pleaders and mukhtears as well. It is said that this circular has become the means of encouraging bribery among unscrupulous officers. We do not know what authority the Executive Government possesses to interfere with the rights of pleaders and mukhtears to inspect the records of pending cases, a right which has been given them by the High Court's circular on the subject. We do not see how the records of pending cases, which are kept in the office-rooms or *shristas* of all Courts, can be inspected without entering the office-rooms. We think the Hon'ble High Court should consider how far the Government circular interferes with their own circular by enquiry of the District and Sessions Judges in the mufassal.

BENGALUR,
14th Oct. 1901.

2541. The *Bengalee* publishes the letter of a correspondent from Faridpur, complaining that the circular orders prohibiting outsiders from entering public offices and law courts are producing the mischievous results which were anticipated, and it appeals to the Judge and Magistrate to put a rational construction on the circular and put a stop to the foolish vagaries of their over-zealous subordinates who will not permit even pleaders and mukhtears to whom they require to give receipts for monies paid or documents returned, to enter their offices.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
10th Oct. 1901.

2542. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, writing on the subject of the indiscriminate issue of processes, is gratified to find that the Government of Bengal, in its Resolution on the Police Administration of Calcutta, has noticed the point, and submits that it should embody its sentiments in a circular order to all Magistrates. By this means only will a sense of security be created which does not exist now.

INDIAN MIRROR,
12th Oct. 1901.

2543. The *Indian Mirror* points out that the exclusion of pleaders in the mufassal from Honorary Magistracies has taken away from the office no little public esteem, and that there can be no reason why the graduate and other pleaders, who now practice in Civil Courts at subdivisional head-quarters, should not be allowed to hold the office. The paper relates that in a town within an hour's journey from Calcutta, a case under section 323, Indian Penal Code, came up before a Bench of Honorary Magistrates and was tried, and the accused convicted on the

very first day of his appearance, without an opportunity of bringing his own witnesses, on the ground that it would "be hard for the five Honorary Magistrates to meet again to hear the case." The President of this Court was the Principal of the Sanskrit College, Calcutta, and the writer remarks that if such a galaxy of Honorary Magistrates could conduct those farcical proceedings in the name of justice, it is not strange that mufassal *huzurs* should "play fantastic tricks" at places where the broader spirit of Indian public opinion seldom makes itself felt.

The article concludes with the assurance that if Honorary Magistrates receive at the hands of Government the same amount of consideration in every respect that stipendiary Magistrates do, the travesty of the Bench will, by a natural shedding of its impossible adjuncts, be developed into a really useful institution.

2544. The *Bengalee* points out the desirability of amending the present law which (1) refuses all right of appeal to an unsuccessful judgment-debtor, and (2) imposes restrictions on a person who wishes to apply for an order to have an *ex-parte* decree passed against him set aside. Such being the hard and unbending rule regarding applications under section 108, Civil Procedure Code, against a Small Cause Court decree, concealment of processes is here greater than in civil suits of any other description.

BENGALIAN,
13th Oct. 1901.

(d)—Education.

2545. The *Hindoo Patriot* understands that the Committee of the Bethune School have applied to the Director of Public Instruction for the services of Babu Sasi Bhusan Dutt, of the Presidency College, to officiate as Principal, pending the appointment of a permanent incumbent. The *Patriot* cannot see why either of the ladies who are next to Miss Bose in the instructive staff of the institution, has not been appointed. This would avoid the temporary appointment of Babu Sasi Bhusan Dutt.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
8th Oct. 1901.

(e)—Municipal Administration and Local Self-Government.

2546. The *Bengalee* in its issue of the 9th instant, goes to the length of publishing the certificates of Messrs. Sarat Kumar Roy and Company, the contractors whose tender for the new Municipal Office building is the lowest.

BENGALIAN,
9th Oct. 1901.

2547. Numerous complaints have reached the *Indian Mirror* about the extremely unsatisfactory nature of the present water-supply in Calcutta, and the rate-payers are fully justified in asking for a better supply of water for their money. The water-pipes in the upper storeys do not, as a rule, at all run, and after five in the evening, the pipes in the lowest storey too altogether stop running. These are hard times for the rate-payers who are made to pay through the nose for every privilege conferred upon them by the Municipality, and now that so much prominence is being given to the matter, the *Mirror* hopes the Municipal Engineer and the Municipal Executive will lose no time in seeing to the needful being done.

INDIAN MIRROR,
12th Oct. 1901.

(g)—Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.

2548. The *Bengalee* publishes the account of its correspondent of the misery and distress occasioned by the Damodar floods, and hopes that, as further procrastination on the part of the Government will be really culpable, the Lieutenant-Governor will be moved to grapple seriously with the situation.

BENGALIAN,
9th Oct. 1901.

2549. In the opinion of the *Hindoo Patriot*, it is high time that Government had recourse to some remedial measures to ameliorate the condition of the people of Hooghly and Howrah districts who have suffered from the flooding of the Damodar river.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
10th Oct. 1901.

(h)—General.

INDIAN NATION,
7th Oct. 1901.

2550. The following is taken from the *Indian Nation* :—

Mr. Pennell's case.

The Secretary of State has cut the Gordian knot. He has not apparently thought fit to deal with the merits of Mr. Pennell's case, but has disposed of it on a preliminary point,—a plea in bar. He has been dismissed the service without gratuity, pension or compassionate allowance. The ground of the dismissal is his leaving India without the permission of the Local Government. What a conclusion! That Mr. Pennell was to be dismissed was a certainty. Neither for the sake of an individual nor for the sake of an abstraction, could the Home authorities be expected to sacrifice the prestige of a Local Government and the Government of India who had both recommended dismissal. In the present case the prestige concerned was not only that of Government, but also that of Governors and of some of the highest Judges in the land, some of whom had been pilloried in Mr. Pennell's judgment. To have reinstated Mr. Pennell would have been to humiliate some of the highest in the land, to necessitate their resignation, to give heart and hope to impudent, disaffected Babus like those who had given him an ovation at Noakhali. Under the circumstances, could any but children and lunatics have expected a triumph for Mr. Pennell? His dismissal, however on the ground on which it has been put, is hardly a triumph for the Indian authorities. Their indictment has not had a verdict pronounced upon it. The Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State has not cared to say if he considers it to be a True Bill. The sensation-loving public are as much disappointed, as when a person charged with high treason is discharged in default of proof of publication of the seditious libel. Mr. Pennell himself, if he retains his sanity, could not have expected any material relief from his memorial. His dismissal on a technical ground he possibly regards as a victory. From what we judge of his temperament we believe he will not let the matter rest here. We do not refer to any agitation in Parliament: that will do no good beyond a little lively debate at best. But he will probably think of publishing all his grievances, all his experiences of the relations of the executive and the judiciary in this country. And that literature, if it is founded on truth, will give a greater shock to bureaucracy than any that even Mr. Pennell has ever given. It can be answered by no further suspension or dismissal.

BENGALIEE,
10th Oct. 1901.

2551. The following extract is taken from the *Bengalee* :—

A piece of monstrous cruelty.

A case has been brought to our notice in which seven *goalas* of Barrackpore have been convicted of an offence under the Cattle Trespass Act and sentenced to imprisonment for one week. The punishment seems to be excessive; but as we have not seen the papers, we are not in a position to form any definite opinion. But what we desire to call attention to, is that the seven men were handcuffed, with strings tied round their waist, and marched in a row through the public streets, and among them was an old man of seventy. The indignity seems to us to have been absolutely uncalled for; and it was a piece of monstrous cruelty in the case of an old man of seventy, who, we are told, could walk with difficulty.

BENGALIEE,
10th Oct. 1901.

2552. Reverting to this case, the *Bengalee* learns that on a petition to the

Ibid.

District Judge of the 24-Parganas, four of the prisoners were ordered by the Judge to be released on bail, but owing to the action of the Court Sub-Inspector and the peshkar, who is also the Jailor of the Barrackpore Jail, the men were not released on receipt of the order from the Judge. It is monstrous, says the *Bengalee*, that this should be permitted on the face of the District Judge's orders, and it craves for an enquiry and that the severest notice should be taken of the conduct of those who had a hand in the matter.

BENGALIEE,
14th Oct. 1901.

2553. In continuation of the foregoing remarks the same paper learns

Ibid.

that the four *goalas* were released on Friday at 10-30 A.M. or, in other words, were detained in prison for nearly 17 hours. As this matter is very serious, Mr. Lyall is appealed to to take the enquiry into his own hands and pass such orders as the justice of the case demands.

2554. As the result of the preceding case the *Bengalee* publishes a letter complaining that the *goalas* of Barrackpore are panic-stricken owing to the large number of cows that are impounded in a single day. There is, says the journal, no objection to Government starting grass farms in cantonments ; but it is the bounden duty of the authorities to see that the experiment is not converted into a facile instrument for levying blackmail upon helpless people by unscrupulous underlings. " Our own information is that many more people are prosecuted than they should be ; that there are many more convictions than what are just, and that a great many more obtain immunity by means which are questionable. Captain Barton is a just and sympathetic officer, for whom we have great respect and we desire to submit these facts for his consideration."

BENGALÉE,
14th Oct. 1901.

2555. The *Bengalee* learns that the Government of India has issued a circular to Provincial Governments calling on them to report on the number of gazetted holidays granted in each province with a view to curtail their number, so that banks and mercantile firms might be freed from the obligation of closing their offices during the holidays. It appeals to Local Governments to see that the present number of holidays is kept intact, as they are required for the observance of religious rites and the enjoyment of local festivals.

BENGALÉE,
10th Oct. 1901.

2556. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* referring to the letter of the Collector of Benares to the Principal of the local Queen's College, already referred to in this Report, asking for the services of non-Kayastha candidates for apprenticeships in his office, remarks:—We were under the impression that such barefaced display of official malevolence is not possible under the administration of Sir A. P. MacDonnell, but it must be borne in mind that it is the subordinates, and not the chief, who rule a province now-a-days.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
10th Oct. 1901.

2557. The *Bengalee*, in publishing the evidence given by the peshkar and the bench clerk in connection with the enquiry into the allegations made against the Subdivisional Officer of Madhepura, understands that these officers have been suspended by order of the Magistrate. This order the writer protests against as constituting an open and palpable interference with the course of justice, and as deterring others who might conscientiously be disposed to give evidence.

BENGALÉE,
13th Oct. 1901.

2558. The *Bengalee* publishes an extract from a Faridpur correspondent's letter stating that a Rural Sub-Registrar is to be appointed to succeed the local Special Sub-Registrar who has been transferred to Mymensingh. The journal desires to call the attention of the Inspector-General of Registration to the matter, and is quite sure that Mr. Ghose will not countenance anything like an attempt to supersede the claims of deserving second grade Special Sub-Registrars and do what would amount to a bit of flagrant injustice to them.

BENGALÉE,
14th Oct. 1901.

2559. The *Bengalee* appeals to Lord Curzon on behalf of the clerks of the office of the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division who are annually taken to Darjeeling with the Commissioner, but are not granted any hill allowances. It alleges that the clerks represented their grievances to the Commissioner, but all they got in reply was an expression of sympathy coupled with the definite pronouncement that the clerks had absolutely no right to make the demand, and that should they repeat it, the Commissioner would turn the delinquents out of his office. There are only two courses open to the Government under these circumstances. Either the clerks must under no circumstances be removed to the hills or, if they are, they must be paid a suitable allowance. As an alternative it is suggested that only those clerks who are highly paid might be taken.

BENGALÉE,
14th Oct. 1901.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

2560. Under this heading, the *East* complains of the "widespread and deep-rooted corruption of the police" and the indifference displayed by the rulers in the matter, "the result being that the people suffer in silence and curse the indifference of the rulers, notably of those placed in charge of that most dreaded and

EAST,
5th Oct. 1901.

accursed department of the State" It characterises the law courts as "sinks of corruption, the whole *amladam* being tainted from top to toe," and asserts that Magistrates and others are unsympathetic towards the sufferings of the people committed to their charge, and take a greater interest in their clubs than in redressing the wrong done the people under their noses.

MOSLEM CHRONICLE,
5th Oct. 1901.

2561. The *Moslem Chronicle* refers to the movement of the Congress apostles to demonstrate the so-called co-operation and representation of the Muhammadan community which has times without number unmistakeably signified its separation from that body, as an oft-played dodge. It points out again that, by habit and nature, the Indian Musalmans are a deeply conservative people, and that not only do they not clamour for revolutionary political changes, but they think that the programme chalked out by the Hindu Congress does not meet the political, social and educational requirements of their community. Social fusion must precede political union, and this will never be possible on account of the religion of the Hindu, which puts under the ban of social exclusion and social ostracism all those who are not within its pale. Next, the vacillating and unsympathetic attitude of a Congress-ridden Administration to the claims of the Indian Musalmans has driven the latter to reflect upon the advantages of adherence or secession.

The writer passes on to a consideration of the policy of the Government with regard to the claims of the Musalman community, and finds that Lord Curzon has allowed the circulars of his predecessors, assuring the community its share in the offices under Government, to be ignored, but he is glad to notice that there are indications of a change in this policy. He next complains of the removal from Divisional Commissioners' Annual Administration Reports of that paragraph which heretofore showed the annual increase or decrease in the number of Muhammadan officers in the public service, and of the absence of a Muhammadan representative in the Viceregal Council, and is forced to the belief that it is due to the absence of a powerful press to voice their grievances that they have been overlooked. It asks for a fair field and no favour, and hopes that before His Excellency lays down the reins of his office, he will do something at least to redress those grievances.

Lastly, the writer is surprised that the *Bengalee* has been representing that some of the leading Muhammadans of Bankipore have joined the Congress camp, and quotes the letter of Khan Bahadur Sayyid Fazil Iman of Bankipore, to show that this is far from being the case.

INDIAN MIRROR,
8th Oct. 1901.

2562. The *Indian Mirror* is sorry for the sake of the British Indian Association that at its special meeting on Saturday last a Resolution was adopted declaring the proceedings of its last annual meeting to have been invalid, and is of opinion that everyone who has been a party to the Resolution in question has good cause to be ashamed of himself. The journal is sure that the Association will find out its mistake when it is too late to undo the mischief that has already been done.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
8th Oct. 1901.

2563. The following paragraph appears in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*:—
Ibid. So the requisitionists had their meeting at the British Indian Association rooms on Saturday last, and voted the proceedings of the annual meeting of the 21st September as null and void! This means that the Maharajah of Darbhanga, who was elected President, has ceased to be such, and the Association is without a committee of management. We think another requisition, signed by the Maharajah of Darbhanga and those who elected him, should now be sent to the Secretary to convene another meeting to veto the proceedings of the meeting held last Saturday. And when this feat is accomplished, the original requisitionists should of course come forward again and undo the doings of their opponents. The members of the Association may pass the whole year in this agreeable way which will no doubt very much promote the interests of the country. The Maharajah of Darbhanga, we believe, has a clear case against the requisitionists. His Highness had to spend a large sum of money to come down all the way from Darbhanga to attend the annual meeting. We think he should now go to law and recover the expenses from the requisitionists, and thus add to the further good name of the Association.

2564. The *Indian Mirror*, in the course of a leader on the subject of the Viceroy's reply to the Imperial Anglo-Indian Association, says that the Association needlessly

INDIAN MIRROR,
8th Oct. 1901.

The Eurasian problem.

provoked Lord Curzon and called forth the snub of His Excellency. They had every reason to be grateful for the practical interest shown by His Excellency in the welfare of the community at the sacrifice of the interests of the natives. It concludes by advising the Eurasians to throw in their lot with the natives of the soil, by which means they will be much happier socially and politically than they are at present.

2565. The following remarks are taken from a notice by the *Bengalee* of the Government of India's reply to the Imperial Anglo-Indian Association.

BENGALÉE,
9th Oct. 1901.

Ibid.

Let the Eurasian community recognize the truth, which ought now to be as clear as the noonday sun, that the Government will not admit their claims as Britishers and will not regard them as a privileged class. The only privileged class in the country—though theoretically the fact will not be admitted—are the Europeans. They are in enjoyment of privileges to which they are not entitled. Those privileges are an outrage upon the constitutional rights of the children of the soil. There is this privileged class, and their unjust privileges should be withdrawn. Therefore it behoves, those who do not enjoy them, to combine and avail themselves of the constitutional means at their disposal to assert their lawful rights. The struggle is between the privileged few and the unprivileged many. The latter should form themselves into a solid phalanx to establish equality and dissipate the last vestiges of privileges, opposed to law and the constitution. It is the old struggle between the plebians and the patricians, carried on under different and more fortunate conditions. Their only salvation lies in falling back upon the Queen's Proclamation, and insisting upon merit being made the sole test of qualification for high office in India. The Britishers will soon find that they are not the elect of the earth or the sole monopolists of merit. In this holy struggle, they will nowhere find more earnest or enthusiastic co-adjutors than among the members of the Indian National Congress.

2566. In view of the fact that, for a mere nominal charge, Christian Missionaries offer excellent food and accommodation to mufassal students, and only the other day Hindu society was greatly exercised at the conversion

INDIAN MIRROR,
10th Oct. 1901.

Christian Missionary boarding-houses for Indian students.

of a young Bengali student who was a boarder at the Douglas Boarding House of the Brethren of the Oxford Mission, the *Indian Mirror* asks: Cannot some wealthy Hindu gentleman, who is anxious to preserve the integrity of Hinduism intact, and may wish well to the rising generation, make it his business to obviate the mischief, done by Christian boarding-houses, by starting Hindu boarding-houses in this city? We wish very much that some pious and patriotic Hindu would make a handsome gift in aid of such an object, and thereby leave behind him a name which shall be cherished, and a memory that shall endure through ages to come.

2567. Referring to the agitation set on foot by several castes against the manner of their classification by the Superintendent of Census Operations in India, the *Indian Mirror* remarks that now that so many Indians have been

INDIAN MIRROR,
10th Oct. 1901.

Caste and its hold on Hindu society.

going abroad for purposes of education and for other objects, it is more than ever necessary that the rigour of caste rules should be greatly relaxed. "We should now learn," says the journal, "to be tolerant of the peculiarities of foreign nations and sentiments, and if, instead of worrying about caste precedence, every Hindu caste were to devote itself to improving the prospects of its members, and removing all restrictions to foreign travel, they will be doing no end of good, and serving a great national purpose. It is by the formation of regular caste organisations and the holding of annual conferences for the discussion of social and religious reforms that improvement in caste is practicable."

2568. Taking its cue from a New York paper which describes the policy of the Indian Government in the matter of the plague in the first instance, as a "terrible mistake," the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* catalogues the other

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
11th Oct. 1901.

The Government of India's 'terrible' mistakes.

mistakes committed by the same Government, summing up its remarks as follows:—

“How we wish that the truth was realized that mistakes are always bad, and terrible mistakes are worse; and that the best course is not to commit any. And the best remedy to provide against mistakes is not to let off those who commit them and punish their victims. The natural and fair course is to punish those who commit mistakes and thereby bring on disasters. The wave of cow and plague riots would not have spread in this country if the parties, whose short-sighted policy created them, had met with condign punishment.”

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
13th Oct. 1901.

2569. In the course of a lengthy article on the real situation, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks:—

The real situation.

The country is becoming poorer day by day and has become the permanent abode of famine, plague and pestilence. The population is decreasing and the higher classes are fast disappearing. The liberty of the subject is not as safe now as it was twenty years ago. Police rule prevails everywhere and the administration of criminal justice is taking away the manliness of the people. The press and the platform have been practically gagged, and the sedition laws hang like Damocles' sword over the heads of our public men. Trial by jury has been knocked on the head, and the little of local self-government given has been withdrawn. The doors of the higher public services have been closed against the children of the soil, while the “Poor Whites” by their clamour have extorted from Government the privilege of holding many subordinate appointments which were in the exclusive possession of the Indians. The prospect, in short, is extremely gloomy before us. Yet, we think, this is not the time to give way to despair; on the other hand, this is eminently the time when it is the duty of those who have to guide public feelings to speak words of hope and encouragement.

The writer's hope is centred in the King-Emperor who is besought, on the occasion of his coronation, to revive the dead Indian nation by renewing the charter of 1858, and urging his servants to give effect to its provisions, at least for the sake of his mother.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENERAL
OF POLICE, L. P.,
WRITERS' BUILDINGS,
The 19th October 1901.

H. B. ST. LEGER,
Asst. to the Insp.-General of Police, L. P.